

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.

Serial No.: Divisional of application
Serial No. 09/177,495

Filed: September 7, 1999

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING
METHOD THEREFOR

Group:

Examiner:

G. Geron
4/ Pre
amelt A
10/27/99

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 7, 1999

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to
examination thereof, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, delete lines 1-8 in their entirety, and
substitute therefor the following:

--This application is a Divisional application of
application Serial No. 09/177,495, filed October 23, 1998,
which is a Continuation application of application Serial No.
09/061,062, filed April 16, 1998, ^{now U.S. Pat. No. 5,952,330} which is a Continuation
application of application Serial No. 08/882,731, filed June
26, ^{now U.S. Pat. No. 5,784,779} 1997, which is a Divisional application of application
Serial No. 08/593,870, filed January 30, 1996, ^{now U.S. Pat. No. 5,661,913} which is a

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